MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

3 NOVEMBER 1983

PLO Affairs

North Lebanon Fighting — "Violent" fighting erupted early on 3 November when positions held by supporters of PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat around Tripoli and the Nahr al-Barid and Al-Baddawi camps were first shelled, starting fires around the Tripoli oil refinery, and then attacked from surrounding Syrian and Fatah dissident positions, Beirut and Voice of Lebanon radios reported. North Lebanon Voice of Palestine radio suddenly stopped transmitting early in the morning and Beirut radio subsequently reported that Fatah dissidents had seized the radio station.

Describing the situation in a telephone statement to Radio Monte Carlo, 'Arafat said the attackers were from Syrian, Libyan, PFLP-General Command, Syrian-backed As-Sa'iqah, and Fatah dissident forces, as well as Palestine Liberation Army-Hittin forces stationed in Syrian territory. 'Arafat reported initial attacks aimed at cutting the coast road between the two Palestinian camps and charged Syrian involvement, stating that he had "voice recordings" of all orders issued by the Syrian command which "led to this battle."

During the battle 'Arafat's forces managed to seize a ridge near Bibnin, but the dissidents occupied the Turbul mountain area, according to Radio Free Lebanon.

Other Developments — Speaking at a press conference in the Palestinian embassy in Moscow, reported by KUNA, acting PLO representative Rami Muhammad ash-Sha'ir affirmed that the USSR "respects and supports" the PLO under 'Arafat's leadership.

Lebanon

Geneva Conference — After unanimously approving a formula defining Lebanon's "identity," the conference discussed the Lebanese-Israeli agreement in a responsible manner "far removed from outbidding," Beirut radio reported. Proposals submitted by various parties included abrogation, revision, and a "freeze" of the accord, the radio said. The evening session of the conference lasted only 45 minutes because the conferees wanted to hold outside contacts on "a certain formula." Damascus radio reported that the conferees failed to agree on the issue, but Radio Monte Carlo said they agreed in principle with former President Sulayman Franjiyah's proposal to freeze the agreement. Voice of Lebanon radio likewise stated that the conference has formed a committee to draft an article concerning "suspension" of the Lebanese-Israeli agreement.

The conference formula for Lebanon's identity defines the country as a sovereign independent state of Arab affiliation and identity, according to Beirut radio. As a founding and active member of the Arab League, Lebanon is committed to the League's charters and should "embody the principles of the charters in all fields without exception," it added.

Proceedings at the evening session began after President Amin al-Jumayyil personally intervened to solve a "problem" between Sulayman Franjiyah and the Swiss guards at the hotel entrance, Beirut radio noted. Al-Jumayyil held a private meeting with the former president. Earlier, Progressive Socialist Party (PSP) leader Walid Junblatt walked out of the morning session after an altercation with Phalange Party leader Pierre al-Jumayyil, Radio Monte Carlo reported. In another development, Radio Free Lebanon said Swiss security authorities received information about a bomb threat but failed to detect any bombs on the premises.

Syrian, Egyptian Comment — A Damascus radio commentary warned against "misplaced optimism" that the conference will solve all of Lebanon's problems and urged the Lebanese to choose a "nationalist, Arab, and Syrian Lebanon" rather than an "Israeli" or "U.S." Lebanon. Describing Israel's threat to remain in southern Lebanon if the Lebanese-Israeli agreement is abrogated as unjustifiable, Cairo radio called on the Dialogue Conference to decide to renegotiate the accord. The United States, which has a "decisive" role in the issue, should take into account the objections to the accord raised by Syria and the Lebanese opposition leaders, the radio added.

Iran-Iraq War

Military Situation — A military communique broadcast by Tehran radio announced that Iranian forces in the northern sector launched another offensive around Panjwin on 2-3 November. The communique reported attacks to the northwest and south of Panjwin in which over 700 Iraqis were killed or wounded. Subsequent reports from Tehran radio and IRNA stated that the Iranians achieved 90 percent of their objectives in the first hours of the operation, capturing several strategic heights, 10 villages, and a military post, but added that operations are continuing. An Iraqi airplane was also shot down, according to Tehran radio. In a statement to Voice of the Masses radio, an Iraqi spokesman confirmed an Iranian offensive around Panjwin, but stated that Iraqi forces were "confronting" the attack in order to "crush it."

In earlier action, another Iranian military communique broadcast by Tehran radio reported that two Iraqi fighters were downed in the northern sector on 2 November. An Iraqi military spokesman, in a statement to INA, "categorically denied" that any planes were downed.

Other Developments — Foreign Minister Tariq 'Aziz revealed in an interview with *Le Matin* quoted by INA that the five Super Etendard aircraft promised by France "arrived in Iraq last month, October." French Defense Minister Charles Hernu told a Paris press conference that the Super Entendards "have been where they should be for almost a month," AFP reported.

Omani Sultan Qabus told the Kuwait paper *As-Siyasah* that he doubts Iran will carry out its threats to close the Strait of Hormuz if its oil installations are attacked by Iraq, according to KUNA. Radio Monte Carlo cited Qabus as stating that, should Iran carry out its threat, he expects "U.S. intervention on the Grenada pattern" to keep the strait open, adding that U.S. forces would be given facilities on Omani territory in such an eventuality. Meanwhile, Omani Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Yusuf al-'Alawi stated that if Iran closes the strait the Gulf states "will discuss" the issue and "take joint action," the Bahrain newspaper *Gulf Daily News* reported. Al-'Awali also aluded to recent Iranian violations of Omani airspace, saying they were not serious but would be discussed with Gulf leaders at the next GCC summit.

Commenting on the recent Security Council resolution on ending the Gulf war, Iranian Prime Minister Mir Hoseyn Musavi told Tehran radio that the resolution was intended mainly to rescue Iraq, which "is contrary to Iranian policies and interests," and to prepare the ground for superpower intervention in the region.

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Karachi Media Describe DRA Situation

'Foreign Domination' Entrenched

BK021526 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 1 Nov 83

[Text] Reports from Afghanistan indicate that a systematic and phased program is being carried out in Afghanistan with a view to firmly entrench foreign occupation and domination in the country. This program covers the fields of education, trade, military, and police. To achieve the objectives, systems and training methods in these fields have been changed. A glaring example in the educational system is the omission of the subject of history of Islamic art from the curriculum of Kabul University and instead introduction of the philosophy of Marxism and scientific socialism.

In the sphere of trade, the system is being organized on the communist lines. In the military field, a separate department, faculty of politics for military, has been created as part of the institute of collective science. It imparts political education to military, police, secret service, and workers of Parcham faction of the Kabul regime party. After this political education, selected persons are posted as political officers in the Armed Forces.

Mujahidin Activities Cited

BK030655 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 3 Nov 83

[Text] According to reports, mujahidin in Afghanistan are in control of over a 40-km long part of Salang highway leading from Kabul to the Soviet frontiers. A Soviet military convoy remains trapped between (Sanjan) and (Jables Seraj) along this highway. The mujahidin reportedly attacked the convoy, inflicting heavy casualties on the troops and damaging a large number of tanks and armored vehicles.

There are also reports of major clashes between mujahidin and Soviet-Karmal troops in Logar, Balkh, and Paktia Provinces.

According to another report, Soviet helicopter gunships destroyed a religious school by bombing a liberated area in Logar Province.

Mujahidin Operations Reported

GF020432 Karachi Jasarat in Urdu 15 Oct 83 p 8

[Excerpts] London, 14 Oct (AAP) — Reports received from Takhar Province indicate that on 22 September the Afghan guerrilla mujahidin, led by Commanders Abdul Hadi and Abdul Latif, attacked a Soviet airfield at (Archi) and destroyed two Soviet helicopter gunships. The (Archi) airfield is on the Oxus River. The mujahidin lost six men in this operation.

According to another report, on 1 October, mujahidin guerrillas ambushed a Soviet-Karmal convoy between Qonduz and Taloqan near Bangi village and destroyed one enemy oil tanker truck and one military jeep. Eight government troops were killed and one Karmal soldier defected to the mujahidin side.

Earlier, in 4 different clashes in Takhar Province in Khuajeh Ghar, Qorokh, (Hazar Bagh), and (Archi), mujahidin killed 16 Soviet soldiers and lost 8 of their own. In another skirmish on 21 September in a tract along the Oxus River in Jowzjan Province, the mujahidin ambushed a government convoy coming from Shebarghan and forced the government soldiers to flee. In this incident, four Karmal soldiers defected to the mujahidin side along with their rifles and one pistol. The mujahidin killed seven Soviet soldiers and lost one guerrilla.

In Helmand Province, the mujahidin killed 20 Soviet-Karmal soldiers and destroyed five tanks in two different operations. The mujahidin lost four guerrillas.

According to reports, a major clash occurred on 27 September near Gereshk along the Herat-Qandahar road when the mujahidin waylaid a motorized Soviet-Karmal convoy. In this ambush two government tanks were destroyed by mines planted by the guerrillas, while another two tanks were destroyed by guerrilla rocket fire. One tank fell into a ravine and was disabled. The rest of the convoy managed to pass the ambush point. The mujahidin looted 2 tanks and found among other things 10 bicycles.

On 24 September, the mujahidin attacked (Yarchao) military post in Gereshk and killed, among other Karmal troops, a KHAD officer at the post. The mujahidin also captured 8 rifles and 14 bulletproof jackets. The Karmal soldiers killed at the post were accompanying the KHAD officer and had initially fired on the mujahidin group. Later the soldiers were forced to take cover inside the post but were finally routed by the guerrillas. Four mujahidin were killed in this skirmish.

Ukrainian Delegation Departs 3 November

LD030713 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0433 GMT 3 Nov 83

[Text] Kabul, Nov 2, BAKHTAR — Soviet delegation headed by Konstantin Masik, deputy premier of Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, left for Moscow today. The delegation to Kabul for participation in the celebration of days of friendship with the Soviet Union organized by the Afghan-Soviet Friendship Society in Kabul. [sentence as received]

Gandhi Favors UN Dealing With Grenada Situation

BK021603 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 2 Nov 83

[Text] India is not in favor of a Commonwealth force being inducted into Grenada. The prime minister, Mrs Gandhi, made this observation when her attention was drawn by a news agency to the reported proposal of the Commonwealth secretary general, Mr S. Ramphal, for the replacement of U.S. forces in Grenada by a Commonwealth peacekeeping force. Mrs Gandhi said it is better for the United Nations to deal with the situation there since the presence of the U.S. troops has taken the matter beyond the purview of the Commonwealth.

Mrs Gandhi expressed grave concern at the events in Grenada and said there can be no justification whatsoever for the invasion of that country by outside forces. We fail to understand how this small island of 120,000 people could have posed a threat to anyone. We remain unconvinced by any of the justifications given for the invasion, she added.

Expressing deep shock and grief over the assassination of Prime Minister Bishop, Mrs Gandhi recalled her meeting with him in Melbourne and in New Delhi during the nonaligned summit. Mrs Gandhi said he was an enthusiastic young man full of plans for the development of his country.

FRG Agrees To Supply Spare Parts for Tarapur

BK021105 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 2 Nov 83

[Text] The Federal Republic of Germany has agreed to provide spare parts for the Tarapur atomic powerplant. Disclosing this to newsmen in New Delhi, the ambassador of FRG in India, Rolf Ramisch, said that an agreement to this effect was signed between India and the FRG on the 6th of last month. He said the supply would be made within the framework of the trilateral agreement amongst India, the United States and France under which France is providing nuclear fuel for the plant after the United States declined to continue supply of enriched uranium under the 1963 agreement. The ambassador said the spares will be made available under a commercial deal and it is for India to place the orders. He said whatever spares are available in his country would be supplied.

Janata Party Leader on Pakistan Ties, Politics

GF311303 Islamabad The Muslim in English 21 Oct 83 pp 1, 3, 6

[Salim Kokhari exclusive interview withJanata Party leader Dr Swamy Subramaniam in Pakistan "last week"]

[Text] Dr. Subrahmaniam Swamy, deputy parliamentary leader of the Janata Party, a leading economist and a specialist on China has said that Mrs. Indira Gandhi seemed to have a kind of love-hate relationship with Pakistan. "She is far more emotionally associated with the creation of Pakistan and this thing remained on her mind all along." He expressed these views during an interview with *The Muslim* in his hotel suite last week. Dr. Swamy is on a brief visit to Pakistan. Following are excerpts from the interview:

[Question] On the state of India-Pakistan bilateral relations, the road-blocks in the process of normalisation ....

[Answer] At this moment, relations have deteriorated as compared to six months ago. Ever since the Prime Minister Indira Gandhi has returned to power, there have been zig-zags in relations. There are obviously some reasons why the relations are worse under the present Indian Government. This is due to the style of relationship. There has been a tendency of fighting for small things. It was there during Janata rule also. But Prime Minister Desai was very categoric. Whenever a small thing came up, he brushed it aside. For example the question of Nepal. The Nepalese wanted a separate trade treaty while the bureaucracy in India was against it. When Mr Desai intervened in the matter, the Nepalese told him that they wanted two treaties not one treaty. Mr Desai told them, have 20 treaties, it doesn't matter. That is the attitude that should be taken. But I find Mrs Gandhi seems to have a kind of love-hate relationship with Pakistan. She has always been telling us in the past that we are opponents of Pakistan. But when we came to power we showed that we are better friends of Pakistan. There seems to be this thing on her mind. She seems to be far more emotionally associated with the creation of Pakistan. For example take the issue of Pakistan's reentry into the Commonwealth. I told her that the Government of India should not obstruct the entry of Pakistan into Commonwealth. I am not saying this to you, I said this is the parliament. I asked the prime minister why are we taking an obstructionist attitude. This creates bad blood. Now during Janata's time, Pakistan wanted to enter the non-aligned movement. We did not object. Similarly the question of Jinnah House which has been promised to Pakistan. There is an unnecessary delay. These are the fundamental obstacles in developing relations between India and Pakistan. Let me tell you that the people of India especially after the developments in Afghanistan, view Pakistan as a very important country for India's security. The stability, sovereignty and integrity of Pakistan is now considered by many Indians to be of equal importance to India. Therefore, fundamentally there is no pressure from the public that the Government of India should be hostile to Pakistan. But I think the approach of the present government should be far more large-hearted.

[Question] On whether he visualises some deterioration in this relationship given the fact that there are going to be elections in India. Some people see that in India and Pakistan relations from both sides are linked with the domestic situation.

[Answer] I think there is some connection with the elections. The elections are due in December 1984. They may be held earlier but I can't say. They may be held on schedule. The new element in the Indian political scene is that the minorities, particularly the Muslims, have shifted attention now to the Janata Party and away from Congress. This has been demonstrated in the Karnataka elections, Delhi municipal election and Kashmir elections. There is a movement of minorities away from the Congress of Mrs Gandhi. Muslims are a big block and have 11 to 12 percent of the votes. The other big block which has always been for the Congress and Mrs Gandhi is the south and the south has also moved away. But on the question of Pakistan, it is not the

external bogey because now nobody goes for external bogey in India.

[Question] Now what has happened is that in order to compensate the loss of Muslim vote, the Congress is trying to attract the "Kutar" (hard-core) Hindu vote. This is a very important shift and much has been written about this in the Indian press.

As for the Punjab problem, it can be solved within one week only if there is a desire on the part of Mrs Gandhi.

Moreover, there are only two outstanding issues left between the Akalis and the Indian Government. One is the question of Chandigarh and the other is that of water distribution. Now on the water distribution issue, the Akalis are prepared to refer the matter to a tribunal of supreme court judges. The Akalis say that they will accept their judgement. As far as Chandigarh is concerned, there are two alternate solutions. One is that Chandigarh be given to Punjab and in compensation for it some 100 villages of Punjab be transferred to Haryana, the other state which is demanding Chandigarh, or that Chandigarh remains as union territory, and rs. 200 crore be given to each state to build new capitals in Punjab and in Haryana, the one in Ranjeetgarh and the other in Kookshootra. So there is a solution Mrs Gandhi is using the Akali agitation as a method of consolidating the Hindu vote. Her strategy is that if the Hindu vote joins her, which is 48 percent of Punjab, and if she can manage some division in Sikh vote, then she can get a majority. This strategy of her's is harming the country. So I can also say that many of the militants today in Punjab are actually creatures of the Congress Party. Today the extremists are being projected, publicity is being given by the government because the government wants to squeeze the Akalis. Although the Akalis have all along been saying that we don't want a separate state, we are against Khalistan. But the projection in the official media is that these people want a separate state.

[Question] On his reaction to the statements recently issued by Indian official spokesmen including Mrs Gandhi regarding Pakistan's internal situation and alleged supply of arms to Pakistan to Sikh extremists.

[Answer] On the first one, Mrs Gandhi in her party meeting expressed support for the Movement for Democracy in Pakistan. This has been objected to by a large number of people within India itself which included very prominent political leaders. They have denounced it as an act of interference. Some of them have also said that if you are really for democracy in Pakistan, you are in fact harming it by the statement because you are projecting the movement as if it is an Indian-sponsored movement and this is not going to help them. In fact I have found after coming here that Mrs Gandhi's statement has damaged the very forces she wanted to help. We take a different attitude. We are for democracy, we like democracy. But Gen Zia says he would like to find out ways by which democracy can come. The question is why Pakistan is singled out. Is there democracy in Soviet Union? Is there democracy in Afghanistan? Is there democracy in Iran? I think there is a tendency to pick on Pakistan on this question. I think if India wants to help Pakistan restore democracy, it should have created an environemnt of peace in the sub-continent so that democracy can indeed be promoted. But having tensions and then saying democracy should come, I think these are contradictory things. As far as this statement is concerned, I don't think if Mrs Gandhi's credentials have yet improved. There is no doubt that since 1980 she has behaved more or less like a democrat. but it is a fact that in 1975-76 she did suspend democracy in India. Moreover, the credentials of people in Pakistan who are asking for democracy are also not very readily acceptable within India. Because many of these people were responsible for subverting the democracy there after they rigged elections of 1977. This is one part. The second part is that I have heard of Pakistani assistance to the Punjab agitation. I have asked since I am regarded as a friend of Pakistan in India, and taken the liberties here to ask the people here and I am convinced when they tell me that not only they are not doing that but they think it is not in the interest of Pakistan to assist the movement in Punjab. But the government has not produced any concrete evidence to show that Pakistan is supplying arms to Punjab. I have asked them to produce the evidence, if any. I have told them you can't go on making allegations. Because allegations are made all the time. Mrs Gandhi says that opposition is being helped by foreign powers. These are allegations and we don't take them very seriously. But if you make a charge that Pakistan is helping the Sikh extremists then you would like the government to produce some evidence. Since the government is unable to catch anybody so far then it is an incompetent government and we have told Mrs Gandhi if you are not able to stop foreign infiltration into our country, then you are not fit to be our prime minister. And you should quit because when we were in power, we never complained of any foreign country helping any agitation in our country. There have been plenty of agitations. There were plenty of riots but we never accused any foreign power of doing it because we think that we were sufficiently equipped to stop this intervention.

[Question] On what impact it will have on the coming election if the Muslim votes shift from Congress and whether this shift is enbloc or in parts in certain areas.

[Answer] I think it is a national shift and I think it is very hard to predict the elections just now. Because the Indian people have become the most uncommunicative on their vote of preferences. When we go to them, they say we are voting for you. This happened in Karnataka when Mrs. Gandhi's party won all the seats in Lok Sabha in 1977 when she was being wiped out from the north. The state of Karnataka gave her 28 of 29 seats and in 1978, they gave her a majority to form a government and then finally in 1980, she got 28 seats again. Now nobody believed that Janata Party will win in 1983 when it could not be elected in 1977 and 1978. The people of Karnataka surprised us. Though I am not in a position to say but I do think that very important groups have now got alienated from the Congress (I). If indeed credible opposition comes up then I think it is very easy to dislodge Mrs. Gandhi in the next elections. But the problem is that what is that credible grouping. The best grouping is the regrouping of the whole Janata groups. There is the present Janata, Lok Dal and BJP [Bharatiya Janata Party] and if they were combined, it will be an instant alternative and we will come to power without any difficulty. But we have problems. BJP has not won the confidence of the Muslims and the Lok Dal Chairman Mr. Charan Singh has not reconciled with Mr. Desai, although Mr. Desai has said he is not interested in power politics.

[Question] On the conversation between Mr. Desai and Soviet Prime Minister Kosygin.

[Answer] Mr. Desai trusted a certain journalist with his secret files but the said journalist reproduced them. Now I have no hesitation to quote from them because they are freely available. During the said conversation between Mr. Desai and Mr. Kosygin, which spread over nine hours, there is a clear statement on behalf of Kosygin that he considers Pakistan as a great problem and nuisance for the pursuit of their policies in Afghanistan at a time when the Taraki Revolution was taking place. It was in March 1979. The Taraki Revolution was taking place and the Sawr Revolution had just gone. Mr. Kosygin is not directly saying that India should do something to contain Pakistan or to break it up. But Mr. Desai does mention that people from Afghanistan have been coming to India and speaking to him and to other members of his government saying that this is an opportunity to finish Pakistan and in their assessment, the Soviet Government will back India in that effort. This reference to Pakistan and something that should be done is there clearly and Mr. Desai is very firm in saying to Mr. Kosygin that no, we want Pakistan's integrity and we will promote our relations with Pakistan. Mr. Kosygin also refers to how the Pakistan Government is dying to invite him and Brezhnev to visit Pakistan and that on one pretext or another Mr. Kosygin has been putting off his visit to Pakistan. In other words he is trying to tell India that I have an option to develop relations with Pakistan if you don't work according to my wish. Then I will also exercise an option. So this is what comes out in regard to Pakistan. There is a lot more, like Kosygin's anger on our developing relations with China. He abuses them. He calls them robbers, rapists and cheats and he has used every conceivable abuse one can think of in regard to the Chinese. He is unhappy that Mr. Desai has not recognised the Han Samsui government in Kampuchea. He is unhappy that we have mildly criticised China for attacking Vietnam. In the end, he offers Mr. Desai the whole gamut of Soviet weaponry including T-72 tanks, MiG-25. So, this was the concern of Mr. Kosygin.

[Question] On his visit to Israel.

[Answer] Over the years, the Israeli counsel in Bombay has been urging me to visit Israel. I also have many friends in Israel because I was a professor at Harvard; there were my colleagues and my students. In fact, one of their leaders of peace movement was my old classmate. Then I found that India does have relations with Israel but secretly. This is not a recent development. It has been so since 1950. The indirect trade with Israel is about rs 100 crore. Some of this trade is direct. For example, diamond trade between the two countries is direct. People go from Surat all the way to Tel Aviv and diamond comes from South Africa. There is also some amount of defence collaboration. There have been politicians who had visited Israel but secretly. I wanted to put an end to this. Why I should do this double thing. I thought this is a wrong approach. It is possible to visit Israel while expressing sympathy for the Palestinian cause. In fact, when the Israeli counsel asked me to visit Israel, I told them that my sympathy is with the Palestinians. Are you still willing to invite me to visit your country. He said yes. It is like not being a communist but going to China. It doesn't mean that you have to be Zionist to come to Israel. On that basis I went there and I spoke to the Israeli prime minister. In fact I spent a lot of time with him talking in great detail on all aspects of policy, some of which I have already published. But the discussion regarding Pakistan with Israel may be of interest to you. I faced this question wherever I went in Israel, that since I am a Hindu how come I have such candid relations with Pakistan, because the Israelis were briefed about my statement about Pakistan. They have very simplistic view about Pakistan and they think that India is largely Hindu and Pakistan being Muslim, every Hindu must be against Pakistan. I asked the prime minister of Israel Mr. Begin his views about Pakistan's nuclear capability, because he was talking to me about Iraqi nuclear capability. He was very sure that the Iraqis will give the bomb to Libya and Libyans had declared their intentions to use the bomb against Israel. So I asked him how could he be sure that Pakistanis won't give the bomb to Iraqis and Iraqis give that again to Libyans — and whether the solution he had adopted for Iraqis, (bombing Iraqi nuclear installation) would be adopted for Pakistanis. Begin was very vague. He said he didn't know whether it is near us or far from us. This is the only answer he gave me. But the Israeli officials were more specific. They said that as far as Pakistan's nuclear capability is concerned, they don't think Pakistan was in the same category as Iraq. The second thing is that they felt that it was impossible for the Israelis to conduct that kind of a raid without landing facility in any neighbouring country. The only neighbouring country is obviously India. The only possibility of an Israeli-type attack on Pakistan can be with the collaboration of India and I visualise that it was not possible. Such a collaboration was not likely since the Indians will never agree to this kind of a thing. In fact, many of us are on record to have said that, first, Pakistan won't become a nuclear power, and even if it becomes a nuclear power, it doesn't really affect our positions because China is a nuclear power, we fought a war with China and we have still not gone nuclear. Now Pakistan being far more nearer to us, it will not be possible for us to use nuclear power against Pakistan because it will kill both of us. If India uses all its bombs on Pakistan, the fall-out from that will kill most of Punjab and Haryana and Delhi. We are so intimately linked that I don't consider that Pakistan's nuclear programme presents a very serious threat to India. I know emotionally, people in India are very much upset. If Pakistan gains the nuclear capability, then everybody will start exciting the passions and everyone will say it is aimed at India's sovereignty. A scare will start. With that point of view, I think the policy of President Ziaul Haq is very sophisticated and intelligent, namely that you pursue your peaceful programme for technology.

[Question] On India's perceptions of Pakistan, and how Pakistan is seen after 36 years of partition.

[Answer] The credit should go to Janata Party which has established that if you are reasonable with Pakistan, Pakistan will be very reasonable with you. Mr. Desai sounded it but Mrs. Gandhi could not sound such a thing. On the question of the consulate, we said we want to have a consulate in Karachi, you take your time to have one in Bombay. Pakistan said go ahead and have it in Karachi. So, it was demonstrated that if you are reasonable with Pakistanis, they will be reasonable with you. People like me, parliamentarians and a large number of people do feel that it is much more India's responsibility. Instead, I think it is an unequal responsibility. It is India's responsibility to build confidence.

India has to do more because India is a much bigger country. But the general public will take time. Whenever there is a problem in Pakistan they think that now the general who is sitting on the top will have a war with India. Or that all the generals are thirsty for revenge so we have to prepare for war. This is the unsophisticated reaction; besides that we have very good feelings towards Pakistan. The cricket team is an example. Pakistani cricketers are as good heroes in India as they are in Pakistan. Your Imran Khan, I think, is in every magazine where his life stories have been published. One of your singers had also visited India. So this acceptability of Pakistani culture and Pakistan as a country deserves complete acceptance. I do not think any Indians today, except perhaps 5 percent or less than 5 percent, want to undo Pakistan. That feeling is not there. And now a new feeling has come after Afghanistan because Pakistan is a buffer state for us. So there is a change in attitude. The only issue on which certain emotions can be whipped up is by saying that those people in power, do not want to lose power and want war to divert attention for the sake of that "badala" (revenge). This has been a very healthy change in attitude.

[Question] On his assessment regarding the changes in Chinese attitude towards South Asian region and how it affects the Sino-Indian relations'

[Answer] Well I think Deng Xiaopeng, a top-most leader, summing up the Chinese attitude during a talk he had with him in 1981. [as published] In the sub-continent, they consider India as the biggest country, which of course it is. The Chinese want all the neighbours to have good relations with India, and India should make sacrifices. (To reach accommodation with its neighbours). This is the approach they have been having, the Nepalese leaders have told me that Chinese have told them to have good relations with India. Even Pakistanis have told me that Chinese have told them to have good relations with India. The same applies to Bangladesh leaders. But in the 1960's the (Chinese) attitude was to create as much misunderstanding betweeen India and all its neighbours. That has changed. Now the Chinese consideration is how to promote harmony in South Asia and I must say that they have been doing this very sincerely. In their attitude towards India, for example, they have openly confessed that they did give arms to Nagas and Meezos in the past but they wouldn't do it in future. They said this in 1978 to me. I was the first Indian politician to visit China after 1962. On Kashmir, previously they used to talk about self-determination of the Kashmiris, but today they say that it is a problem between India and Pakistan and they must settle it through negotiations. They have distinctly changed from promoting hostilities against India to urging India to make sacrifices for accommodation with its neighbours and urging the neighbours to have good relations with Idnia. And I think this policy will continue and we are confident that this policy will continue for another 10 to 15 years and China will continue to play its positive role.

[Question] On the new leadership in India and Pakistan.

[Answer] Till 1974 in India we had this psychology: If you are a bright fellow, an intelligent fellow, then become an industrialist, a business executive, a doctor, lawyer, journalist — something like that; and if you are a useless and good for nothing then go into politics. Society itself is responsible for denying talents to politics. In 1974 Jay Prakash Narayan created a new atmosphere. Mr. Jay Prakash Narayan was all for throwing the talent into politics and was partly responsible for my leaving my job at Harvard University and coming back to India. He told me that all this education is fine, but first clean up the politics. A large number of young people have entered politics, some have become prominent but a large number is still not prominent. And now 70 per cent of electorates is below the age of 40. After this election you will see the emergence of a grand new leadership in India. I think in this election a lot of heads will roll and an entirely new crowd will come up and on that basis a grand new leadership will be built by the year 1990. India will have a new leadership of talented an abled and high quality men. In Pakistan, it is much of the same thing. There has been no encouragement for people to enter politics. The society should encourage people to go into politics. The main problem in politics is the insecurity of life. You are sometime a minister and sometime on the streets. People in this sub-continent hate insecurity. They do not mind poverty as long as they are secure! If they are sure they will have poverty all their life, they would not mind! It will be something guaranteed for them. Lack of support to politicians on part of the society makes the politicians to go for underhanded deals. I think that a man who enters politics must have something to sustain it. Either the family must do it or the society should do something to support him. In India the change has already started. You will see that in another 5 years the situation will be completely changed.

[Question] On the threat of centrifugal forces to India's integrity.

[Answer] I do not see any threat to India's integrity at all from within. It cannot be inspired from outside. The main reason is that our system is such that it allows some steam to come out of it. You see Tamil Nadu in 1965 went on rampage. The DMK [Dravidian Progressive Federation] demanded a separate country. On that it came to power and since then, 15 to 16 years have elapsed. Today what is happening in Tamil Nadu, the DMK and a new party called ANA-DMK, both are in competition to prove as to who is a loser to Mrs. Gandhi. So the whole situation has changed. The same thing applies to the Nagas and Meezos. If a system allows steam to come out regularly, there is no problem. We are in the process of nation-building. We were not one country culturally but politically we became a single entity in 1947 after many many centuries. In Indian system, there is a room for the steam to come out. So in Assam we had tremendous agitation. I think it could be handled much better and the loss of life minimised. Now the same agitation is in low key. And you see in another 10 to 15 years, you will not remember that there was some agitation in Assam. But if there was a clamp down in our system, then the danger could have been greater.

[Question] On the possibility of India becoming a victim of military rule like several other Third World countries.

[Answer] I don't personally agree that there is dearth of leadership in India. Till a person sits in the chair of the prime minister, he or she is not going to be recognised as a leader. People thought when Nehru died the country will fall apart. Then Shastri came. We thought Shastri won't be able to manage but he did. Mrs. Gandhi was also considered as a doll when she came. But she proved to be a leader. I don't think of such a thing, of India going

under military rule. I am sure that the military has recognised that it can't rule India. India can't be ruled by strong arms methods. We tried it in the emergency and Mrs. Gandhi learnt the cost. I don't think India will ever give up democracy. I can even foresee United States giving up democracy but I can't foresee India will ever give up democracy, especially after the emergency.

Zia Meets With Election Commission 2 November

BK030715 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 3 Nov 83

[Text] President General Mohammad Ziaul Haq had another meeting with the chairman and members of the Election Commission in Islamabad yesterday. He was apprised of the various steps taken by the Election Commission to accelerate the election process. The president again directed the commission to be prepared for the elections.

The commission's 2-day session, which considered various aspects of the measures being taken for the elections in the country, had concluded earlier yesterday. The chief election commissioner, Mr S.A. Nusrat, presided over the session and four Election Commission members — Justice S. Usman Ali Shah, Justice Mohammad Rafiq Tara, Justice Sayeeduzaman Siddiqui, and Justice Abdul Kabil Chaudhry — participated in the session.

Authorities Search for Arms, Arsonists in Sind

GF311133 Karachi Nawa-e Waqt in Urdu 26 Oct 83 p 1

[Text] Karachi, 24 October — The government has started a large-scale campaign to weed out bandits, highway robbers, antisocial elements, and escaped convicts and has began a search for arms caches, aimed at ending the operations of those professional criminals who have been disturbing Sind Province security during the past few months.

According to reliable sources, groups of police and law enforcement officials have been set up and all resources have been placed at their disposal. They have also been given the necessary instructions to act against the antisocial elements on a priority basis. According to these sources, the government has taken a serious view of the armed attacks, brazen highway robberies, kidnapping of innocent civilians, and armed clashes with the police. Strict instructions have been issued to put an end to all such activities and to ensure and give priority to the safety of citizens.

According to these sources, the government has received information on large-scale smuggling of illegal arms. An intensive search has been initiated and the police are raiding the most suspect areas. The police have gained desired success in this campaign and a huge quantity of illegal arms has been seized.

The police began operations in areas known to be dens of illicit activities and centers of arson. Nawabshah, Hyderabad, Khairpur, and Larkana head the list of such places. Theese sources report that the police raided (Lakhat) village in Nawabshah district and New Jatoi, the village of former Chief Minister Ghulam Mustafa Jatoi, and 30 surrounding villages and have seized a huge amount of illegal arms. It has been alleged that a large number of criminals have been apprehended and detained for interrogation. Police sources claim that since the beginning of this campaign, the law and order situation in Sind Province has improved considerably, and there has been a tangible reduction in crimes.

Journalists Set To Protest Press Curbs 15 November

GF030616 Dubayy Khaleej Times in English 2 Nov 83 p 22

[By correspondent]

[Text] Islamabad — The Executive Council of the Pakistan Federal Union of Journalists [PFUJ] has decided to observe countrywide protest day on November 15 to express resentment over the dismissal of ten senior journalists of Lahore, intensification of curbs on press and recent detention of journalists.

In its two-day session presided over by Mr Nisar Osmani in Lahore on October 29 and 30, the council also directed members to launch a signature campaign for eliciting support of other sections of the society like lawyers, writers, workers and students.

It decided that if its demands were not met during the next one month it would urge biennial delegates meeting of the All Pakistan Newspaper Employees Confederation (APNEC), scheduled in Islamabad in the first week of December, to chalk out future course of action.

The council passed resolutions against the dismissal of journalists, reimposition of precensorship of a number of newspapers, frequent use of press advice and unjustified detention of newsmen.

In one resolution the PFUJ said the restoration of representative institutions could alone guarantee freedom of the press.

DAWN on Mian Tufail's Expulsion From Quetta

GF011500 Karachi Dawn in English 30 Oct 83 p 1

[Text] Mian Tufail Mohammad, amir of defunct Jamaat-i-Islami, was externed from Quetta yesterday and was asked to proceed to Jacobabad. But, instead, he arrived in Karachi at 6:30 p.m. and left for Lahore by the connecting flight last night.

The order of externment from Baluchistan Province was served on Mian Tufail yesterday morning, and he was asked to leave Quetta immediately for Jacobabad. Mian Sahib, whose visit to Quetta had concluded, was planning to catch the flight direct to Lahore and so he refused to proceed to Jacobabad. By the time permission was granted to him to leave for Lahore, the PIA plane had already left and so he had to take the Karachi flight for onward journey to Lahore.

Mian Tufail Mohammad, when approached by newsmen at the Karachi airport, said such restrictions on the movement of politicians were counter-productive and would lead to alienation.

Our staff correspondent adds from Quetta: Mian Tufail who was on a visit to Quetta since Thursday was served orders by provincial government asking him to remove himself from Baluchistan with immediate effect.

NAWA-E WAQT Criticism

GF012000 Karachi Nawa-e Waqt in Urdu 31 Oct 83 p 3

[Editorial: "Exposure of All Eyes — National or Provincial Politics?"]

[Excerpts] The expulsion of the leader of the defunct Jamaat-i-Islami, Mian Tufail Mohammad, from Baluchistan is not only regrettable but also reflects the irony of traditional bureaucracy. It is regrettable because after the president's discussions with leaders of the defunct political parties it was expected that not only would the release of detained political leaders be considered, as has been demanded by all the political parties, but also the restrictions on the movements of politicians in the provinces would be removed.

This was necessary so that a conducive atmosphere shorn of bitterness could be created for the success of the negotiations. It was ironic because when the leader was served the expulsion notice, he was on his way to Lahore.

Such action against Mian Tufail seems strange and incomprehensible because despite his insistence on elections on a party basis, he is opposed to agitation or confrontation with the government as a result of which he has had to bear the taunts of being the "B" team of the martial law government.

Whatever the reasons for the expulsion orders the government may have, the effect seems to be the demarcation of provincial limits in politics to which the politicians' status has been subordinated.

Those political leaders who want to play a role on the national level will be confined to their provinces and the mark of provincialism may become more deeply etched on their personalities. This will not only have an adverse effect on politics in the country and the nation but also on the country itself because the efforts of those leaders who should envisage solutions to problems on the national level will be limited to the boundaries of their respective provinces, with the result that in the long run they will only be provincial leaders.

We would like to believe that this is not the objective of these orders, but if this is not discontinued, the result will be just this and it will strengthen the hands of those elements who advocate autonomy on a provincial basis and speak of the federation of four provinces as if the provinces do not exist for the country but the country exists for the provinces.

As the provincial quota system is an important basis for the development of the national viewpoint in politics, bureaucracy can never play a positive role. This service can only be performed by political parties based on national foundations and those leaders who think on a national and country-wide level. If they are confined to their provinces and are thwarted from traveling to every corner of the country to have contacts with those who are in unison with their ideas or to convince people of their viewpoint, then how will there be a national viewpoint and how can such a phenomenon develop?

Iran To Purchase 100 Fishing Boats; Salvage Mooted

GF011430 Karachi Dawn in English 28 Oct 83 P 22

[Text] Iran has placed orders with the Karachi Shipyard and Engineering Works [KSEW] for the supply of 100 wooden fishing boats, according to the chairman of Pakistan National Shipping Corporation [PNSC], Rear Admiral Abdul Waheed Bhombal.

He told a news conference in Karachi today that the Iranian delegation which visited Pakistan recently held wide-ranging discussions with the Pakistan Government, PNSC, KSEW, Karachi Port Trust, and Paksitan Shipbreakers Association for cooperation between the two countries.

He said Iran was keen to give the Pakistan Shipbreakers Association the job of salvaging 80 damaged vessels from Iranian waters, to be broken at Gaddani later.

Admiral Bhombal said the proposed joint Iran-Pakistan shipping company, which was likely to be set up by March next, would acquire six ships under a phased programme.

In the beginning it plans to acquire one or two vessels to start its operations. The new company will handle Iran's meat imports totalling some 30,000 tons annually.

The PNSC and Iranian Shipping Company will each contribute five million dollars to the equity.

The chairman of the joint venture will be Iran while Pakistan will be its vice-chairman.

Hedquartered at Tehran, the company will be under the managing directorship of a Pakistani. It will have six directors, three each from Iran and Pakistan but Iran will have 51 percent of shares against 49 per cent shares of Pakistan.

The PNSC chief said a Pakistan was scheduled to visit Iran next Tuesday to have more discussions with the Iranians.

Rear Admiral Bhombal said the Iranians wanted increased cooperation with Pakistan in many fields of shipping, including training of their personnel in the Merchant Marine Academy, and Pakistan had agreed to train 50 Iranian officers annually.

BANGLADESH

AFP Reports 20 Injured, 125 Arrested During Strike

OW022124 Paris AFP in English 2106 GMT 2 Nov 83

[Text] Dhaka, Nov 2 (afp) — Despite a low profile maintained by security forces during Tuesday's strike called to protest at the military government of General Hussain Mohammad Ershad, 20 people were injured and 125 others arrested in outbreak of violence in the capital.

A car carrying a minister was stoned and damaged. He was said to be unhurt but his driver was wounded.

Five offices of pro-government political organisations were ransacked and set on fire but there was no major damage.

State-owned transport corporation claimed that 24 of its buses were damaged in brickbatting and arson. Five jeeps and cars were also reportedly damaged.

As a precautionary measure, over 2,000 additional police and paramilitary personnel were posted at some 127 strategic points during the strike.

Official sources said most of the police personnel were unarmed and had been clearly instructed not to take any offensive against the strikers.

As a preventive measure, police had also made 46 arrests on Monday night. The arrested were put before a metropolitan magistrate who reportedly ordered them in custody.

Reports here also said most of the 125 people arrested yesterday had been freed.

Delhi Cites Opposition Deadline for Elections

BK030719 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 3 Nov 83

[Text] Two major opposition alliances in Bangladesh have set a 5-month deadline for the martial law government to hold general elections for transferring power to a civilian government. They have said the present movement in the country for restoration of civilian rule will be intensified if their demands are not met. They gave this warning at mammoth rallies after a 6-hour opposition-sponsored strike which crippled normal life in Dhaka and other major towns. Reports say police have arrested about a 100 people in Dhaka for picketing.

SRI LANKA

Liyanage Details Ruling on Censorship

BK021625 Colombo Domestic Service in English 1545 GMT 2 Nov 83

[Text] The publication of materials relating to the commission of offenses under the Prevention of Terrorism Act [PTA], inciting violence, communal disharmony, and disaffection will be restricted from today. This follows the activation of clause 5 of the Prevention of Terrorism Act by the Ministry of Defense which relates to the prohibition of publications.

Announcing this at a news conference today, the secretary to the Ministry of State, Douglas Liyanage, said that the offenses under the PTA are wide-ranging. These include the causing of death or physical harm to persons and the destruction of government property and semigovernment institutions. The unlawful possession of arms and offensive weapons, the (?trade) of such weapons or their manufacture, and harboring and concealing persons proclaimed under this act are being other offenses.

Mr Liyanage, describing the censorship, said that the restriction of publication is confined to two specific areas: the coverage of the acts of terrorists and publications which might be considered surreptitious. He said the government has taken this measure to improve the security situation in the country and to deal with terrorist groups. The secretary reasoned that a detailed news item on the activities of terrorists would enhance their morale. It would also mean that news of terrorist activities in one part of the country would be available to the antinational group in other parts of the country. This would also bring unnecessary heavy reactions against terrorists in other parts of the country.

Marchers Assemble at U.S. Embassy, Musavi Speaks

LD021916 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 2 Nov 83

[Text] Glorious demonstrations were held this evening to mark 4 November, the anniversary of the imam of the nation's exile and the conquest of the U.S. den of espionage and also to protest the all-round support of world arrogance for the Iraqi Ba'thist-Zionist regime. Groups of students from Tehran's various universities, who are always present on the scene, together with professors and staff of Tehran's universities staged the glorious demonstrations.

According to our correspondent, after converging at Tehran University, the students marched in concentrated ranks, carrying placards and pictures of the imam of the nationand of Grand Ayatollah Montazeri. Chanting slogans, they marched along various routes and then assembled in front of the den of espionage.

The assembled marchers, after chanting the slogans: Death to America. Death to the Soviet Union, Death to Israel, and Death to France, condemned intervention by the supercriminals in the internal affairs of oppressed countries, particularly the Islamic Republic of Iran, and warned the Socialist-Zionist French regime against giving military help to Saddam's falling regime.

During these ceremonies, a university professor made a speech in which he explained students' movements in the course of the Islamic Revolution and the conquest of the den of espionage, that is, the second revolution.

An 8-point resolution, passed on the occasion of the 4 November anniversary, was read and approved by the students among shouts of "God is great."

The resolution, referring to the fact that the Islamic Revolution of Iran is the most independent movement in the world, states: In step with all the self-sacrificing members of the Hezbollah, while expressing our readiness to go to the war fronts and to implement the Labbayk Ya Khomeyni plan, we students severely condemn the all-round political, military, and propaganda support given by world arrogance to Saddam's collapsing and falling regime. We wholeheartedly and in the best possible way give a positive reply to the imam of the nation's decree on the holding of Islamic Consultative Assembly elections. In consolidating their unity with seminaries, the Muslim Iranian academics more than ever seek the help of the honorable teachers of religious seminaries.

The resolution further states: The Security Council's decisions, which the aggressive superpowers have the right to veto, have no value whatsoever to Iran's Muslim nation and the world's oppressed. We will continue the struggle against world arrogance until the final victory of truth over falsehood and we will always chant the usual slogan of War, war until victory.

After the resolution was read, Prime Minister Mir-Hoseyn Musavi spoke. After greeting the pure souls of the martyrs, particularly the students martyred in Hoveyzeh, the prime minister said: On behalf of all the deprived anad captive people of the world, who have decided to rise against the oppressors and the tyrants, we celebrate today. He then explained the conspiracies hatched by the world-devouring America aimed at obstructing the Islamic Revolution, this genuine and divine movement.

He went on: We have overcome great conspiracies and we are now walking on the roof of the biggest den of espionage in the world and have shattered the myth of its invincibility. Through their games,the superpowers made the nations believe that there are no alternatives, that the nations had to be under the domination of either the West or the East, and had disappointed the nations about their victory and their future. But our Islamic Revolution proved that if they so wish, nations are able to revolt against the big powers and to become victorious.

The prime minister then explained America's deceitful moves to hamper the progress of the Islamic Revolution. He said: America has placed its hope on the liberals because it has been investing in them for years to spread American culture and values. These liberals, with their respect for America's outlook and judgment on the Islamic Revolution, are the windows through which America intends to enter.

Continuing his sneech, the prime minister said: The biggest achievement of the occupation of the den of espionage was the shattering of American culture. With the conquest of this den, the liberals and the splinter groups were identified and the nation distanced itself from them and isolated them.

The prime minister added: With the victory of the Islamic Revolution, America lost many things in our country. The most important of them was domination over our great vital resources, bazaar, and culture. A glance at the documents from the den of espionage exposes the extent of America's conspiracies against the Islamic Republic. This great action by our students foiled all these conspiracies. Under the shelter of this second revolution, which had a deep connection with the first revolution, liberation movements started in the world. With the passing of every day since the revolution, the hopes of the people of the world come to more fruition. We should not consider de-Americanization in the region as the only effect of the struggle against America.

At the end of the prime minister's speech, the American flag was burned with boundless joy and shouts of "Death to America,"as a sign of nations' anger with this supercriminal. The ceremony ended with more cries of "Death to America."

Communiques Report on Third Phase of Val-Fajr IV

Communique No 17

LD031014 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0859 GMT 3 Nov 83

[Communique No 17 of Hamzeh Seyyed ash-Shodada Headquarters]

[Excerpts] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. At 2400 on 2 November, the combatants of Islam began the third phase of the victorious Operation Val-Fajr IV — codenamed O

God, O God, O God. This phase is meant to show the eternal and ever-victorious power of Islam and the vulnerability of the defeated, Ba'thist, Zionist forces of Iraq. The objectives are to take our Islamic homeland's border towns out of enemy firing range, to capture important strategic heights west of Panjwin, to liberate posts and villages on the western axis of Panjwin inside Iraq, to attack the positions of the criminal Saddamists, and to deal heavier blows to them.

During this phase of the proud Val-Fajr operation, the self-sacrificing combatants of the liberating army of Islam hurdled numerous obstacles — minefields and electrified barbed wire — crossed the Qezel-Che-Sur River on the northwestern axis of Panjwin, attacked the positions of the Ba'thist, Zionist forces, and took positions on Shaykh Gezneshin, 1,881 Taryar, and 1,904 Kali Mangah heights, raising the proud flag of dear Islam over them.

During this operation, the victorious forces of Islam destroyed the 3d Battalion of the 504th Brigade, the 2d Battalion of the 602d Brigade, and other units of the special forces of the defeated regime of Iraq, killing or wounding more than 700 Saddamists.

The victorious forces of Islam, composed of the brave personnel of the Armed Forces, the self-sacrificing Guards Corps, and the basij of the Guards Corps personnel, also liberated the Iraqi post of Qezel-Che-Sur and the villages of (Qezelcheh), (?Badena), (?Ahmadgolbani), and (?Soleymandel) in Iraq from the Ba'thist criminals, taking positions in all these areas.

At present, the forces of monotheism have besieged the base of Iraq's 602d Brigade, including a number of the Iraqi forces and a number of villages on the western axis of Panjwin, and continue their relentless battle by relying on God's infinite power.

Reports on the continuation of the triumphant battles of the forces of Islam will be announced in later communiques.

[Signed] Hamzeh Seyyed ash-Shohada, center for joint operations of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran and the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps

Communique No 18

LD031146 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 3 Nov 83

[Communique No 18 of Hamzeh Seyyed ash-Shohada Headquarters]

[Excerpts] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. Heroic Islamic nation, martyr-nurtuing Iranian nation: The third phase of the Val-Fajr IV operation was launched at 2400 last night. It is codenamed O God, O God, O God.

By the powerful hands of the God-seeking liberation forces of Islam, with God's help and assistance, and to demonstrate the eternal power of Islam, to warn the vile Eastern and Western supporters of the criminal regime of Baghdad, to take the Islamic homeland's border towns out of enemy firing range, and to liberate posts, villages, and important and strategic heights west of Panjwin; under the leadership of Imam Khomeyni, commander in chief of the Armed Forces, the fighters of Islam, composed of the self-sacrificing members of the Guards Corps, the mobilization units of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps, and the heroic personnel of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran, carried out a series of successful operations on the western axis of Panjwin, deep inside Iraq. They succeeded in crossing many obstacles, vast minefields, and barbed wires. They attacked the positions of the defeated enemy forces and occupied Shaykh Gezneshin, Taryar height No 1,881, Shaykh Harran height No 1,900, and height No 1,904 of Kali Mangah mountain range. By unfurling the liberating banner of Islam, they raised the call of God is great upon those heights.

In these successful operations, the fighters of Islam so far have succeeded in destroying the 3d Battalion of the 504th Brigade, the 3d Battalion of the 101st Brigade, and the 2d Battalion of the 602d Iraqi Brigade, killing or wounding more than 1,200 of the Ba'thist-Zionist Forces and capturing a number of them. The victorious forces of Islam, by liberating Iraq's Polis and Qezel-Che-Sur posts, succeeded in Darabarkan, Badaneh, Kuran, Espidaneh, Kanishayan, Kanimaran, Ahmadkolban, Saliaba, Zalkava, Soleymandel, and Aruzar villages inside Iraq to cleanse the filthy existence of Ba'thist criminals and gain full control of all those areas. The monotheistic fighters also succeeded in destroying the base of the 602d Iraqi Brigade and setting fire to and destroying all their weapons and military equipment. Also in these operations, with the fire of the heroic forces of Islam and the efforts of the high-flying eagles of the Air Force of the Islamic Republic of Iran, one enemy aircraft was shot down in the Val-Fajr IV operational zone.

The incessant battle of the forces of Islam, supported by divine assistance and the blessed prayers of the heroic Iranian nation, continues.

[Signed] Hamzeh Seyyed ash-Shohada Headquarters, center for the joint operations of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps and the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran

Armed Forces Joint Staff Communique No 1,523

LD021724 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 2 Nov 83

[Communique No 1,523 of Joint Staff of Armed Forces of Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In His exalted name. The proud pilots of the Air Force of the Islamic Republic of Iran again proved their superiority in air operations against the Saddamist criminal mercenaries. Our fighter aircraft downed two intruding aircraft of the aggressive Iraqi Armed Forces at 1045 and 1114 today in the Baneh and Marivan sectors.

Yesterday, the mighty combatants of Islam in the Val-Fajr IV operational sector continued their defense of the positions and regions under their control. By further consolidating their defensive positions, deploying intense artillery fire, and dispatching patrol groups, the mighty combatants of Islam monitored enemy

movements and engineering activities, prevented enemy activities, and inflicted losses and casualties on the Saddamists.

Thanks to the artillery and heavy weapons fire of our warriors on positions and units of the Iraqi forces on the Piransaahr and Hajj 'Umran operational fronts, enemy fire was silenced and a number of their troops were either killed or wounded.

Our warriors on other fronts of the imposed war, while controlling and dispersing enemy patrol groups, returned the fire of the Saddamist forces. While continuing their defensive operations, our warriors silenced the fire of the Iraqi forces and halted movements of the Saddamists' supply vehicles in each region.

Enemy losses on one of the southern fronts reportedly included destruction of a truck carrying enemy troops. There is no accurate information available as to the exact number of losses suffered by the Saddamist mercenaries on these fronts.

The city of Abadan yesterday came under the long-range artillery fire of the Saddamist mercenaries; some houses and shops ware damaged.

[Signed] Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran

UNESCO Delegate Rejects Iraq's Peace Claims

LD021028 Tehran IRNA in English 0930 GMT 2 Nov 83

[Text] Paris, Nov. 1 IRNA — Iranian delegation at the UNESCO general conference outrightly rejected Monday the claim that the Ba'thist regime of Iraq was seeking peace in the war which Saddam imposed on the Islamic Republic and now it was in its fourth year.

The delegation was present at the 160-member nation's general conference of the U.N. Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organisation which started last Tuesday here in which more than 2,500 delegates, representatives and observers are participating.

The conference is reviewing a 484-page document called the draft programme and budget for 1984-85.

An Iranian representative said that the tactics of the Iraqi regime are now known to the world and added that such tactics will not bring fruit any more.

Elaborating the point the representative said that the Iraqi regime poses itself as "peace-loving" and "peace seeker" but at the same time its forces attack the defenceless innocent civilians.

At the same time, the representative said that some representives including Iraq talk about the peace in the war which was imposed by Iraq on the Islamic Republic of Iran. The representative said that Iran like other free nations is very much interested in peace and prosperity of the human being and it wants to reconstruct the society.

"Iran needed peace more than any other country for the reconstruction of the devastated areas which had been the target of the superpowers and the previous regime's plot," the representative said. But, he said that the past experience specially the experience of the Zionist regime's presence in the Middle East during the last 30 years taught a lesson to us that peace through negotiations could not be achieved until and unless the complete suppression of the aggressor. "Such (imposed) peace goes in favour of the aggressor," the representative remarked.

The rep. said that the Iraqi regime has violated the Geneva Convention and bombed the residential areas even at midnight while the people were sleeping in their homes. Schools, hospitals and other non-military areas have been target of the Iraqi bombing, the representative said.

The rep. said that so far 1,000 innocent people were martyred in Dezful alone, Khuzestan Province of Iran by the brutal attack of the Iraqis. The figures of martyrs in other cities such as Andimeshk, Masjed Soleyman and Behbehan are also considerably high.

The rep. said that today was the seventh day of the martyrdom of 76 students who were the target of the Iraqi attack on a school in Behbehan.

"I do not ask the members to observe one-minute silence in the memory of these innocent students but I will definitely appeal to the opinion of the vigilant world people to protest against such crimes, the representative concluded.

Musavi Discusses Cabinet Topics, UN's Pro-Iraqi Vote

LD021201 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 2 Nov 83

[Unidentified reporter's interview with Prime Minister Mir-Hoseyn Musavi after 2 November Cabinet meeting--recorded]

[Excerpts] [Reporter] Could you please tell us what issues were discussed in today's session of the Cabinet?

[Musavi] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. This meeting was held in the presence of the esteemed president. At the beginning, as usual, we had some reports concerning grain silos, the situation in the country, and our foreign affairs. Later, we had a report concerning the delegation's visit to North Korea, followed by a discussion on their talks and agreements.

We also discussed the aggressive and inhuman policies of France toward our country and the methods being used in this respect by the French Socialists. France's foreign policies in the region were reviewed and its goals were analyzed.

[Reporter] Concerning the resolution of the UN Security Council, please let us know what Iran's position is concerning this resolution and why this resolution cannot be accepted as a verdict.

[Musavi] Of course, in the past we have talked about our attitude toward international organizations. On the whole, most of these organizations are a means for implementing the policies of the big powers, especially the Security Council which has five big

powers as bullies at its head, extortionists who want to impose their views upon other countries. However, apart from these issues, naturally, the resolution which was passed by the Security Council and the decision made in this connection was mainly aimed at rescuing Iraq from the impasse it is facing. This vote, in fact, favors Iraq, so that Iraq can move freely in this region. This is contrary to our policies and to the general interests of our Islamic Revolution. Naturally, we did not start the war. It was imposed upon us and Iraq should face the consequences of its action. At the same time, this issue discussed in the Security Council is a means of preparing the ground for greater interference of the big powers in the region. But certainly, the will of the people of the region will neutralize these conspiracies and plots, God willing.

[Reporter] Thank you very much.

Khamene'i Addresses Airbase Personnel 2 November

LD021029 Tehran IRNA in English 0950 GMT 2 Nov 83

[Text] Tehran, Nov. 1, IRNA —President Ali Khamene'i of the Islamic Republic of Iran visited Air Force personnel of the Mehrabad airbase and took part in ceremonies there to review the personnel this morning.

During the visit the president, who is also head of the Supreme Defence Council, delivered a speech in which he hailed the glorious efforts of the Air Force personnel of the Islamic Republic of Iran after the outbreak of the imposed war, and also before the war started since the Air Force was the first military body that embraced the Islamic revolution.

President Khamene'i then exhorted the personnel to further strengthen their solidarity, sense of cooperation and sincerity among themselves, since, he stressed, that was a religious duty.

The president later took part in a session in which the chief of the joint staff, the acting chief of the joint staff and the commanders of the forces together with their duties also participated.

During the session the commanders presented reports of their related units and the president gave guidelines in connection with the issues that were raised.

Ilam Province Officials Dismissed Following Complaints

LD022239 Tehran Domestic Service in Prsian 2030 GMT 2 Nov 83

[Excerpt] The Supreme Judicial Council held a session last night in the presence of all members and the supervisor of the country's investigation department. The purpose of the session was to review reports received in connection with the imam of the nation's 8-point decree. At the start of this session, reports of the delegation that went to Ilam Province was discussed. During its stay in the province, the delegation investigated over 3,500 complaints. On the basis of the delegation's report, the official in charge of urban land and the official in charge of the province's Chamber of Commerce were fired.